

# LUCIA

## Design For Interiors

6702 '99 AUG 19 P2:53

August 15, 1999

286 Barwynne Lane  
Wynnewood, PA 19096  
Phone: (610) 896-7964

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

**Re: Docket Nos. 98N-1230, 96P-0418, 97P-0197**

To Whom It May Concern:

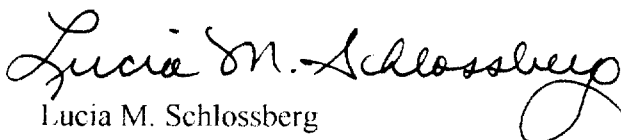
It is my understanding that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS) has recognized that public health concerns are raised by highly stressful forced molting practices of the U.S. egg industry. FSIS stated: "...extended starvation and water deprivation practices lead to increased shedding of *Salmonella enteritidis* by laying hens subjected to these practices."

I would request that the FDA do more than put bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and regulate egg refrigeration temperatures. Forced molting has been scientifically shown to promote disease – it is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs – by destroying the starving hens' immune systems.

The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting and has the jurisdiction to do so if it is injurious to human health. This petition should be granted without further delay!

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing your comments on this important issue.

Sincerely,

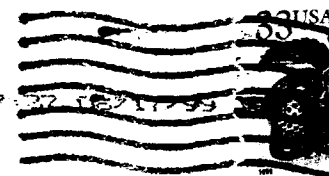
  
Lucia M. Schlossberg

/lms

96P-0418

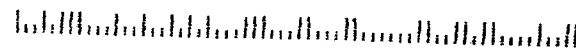
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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ *C299*

See File Number: 97P-0197/ *C300*  
96P-0418/ *C299*